

To our friends -- We have decided to use this area to share things with our visitors. It could be words of encouragement, revelations, prophecies, etc. If you have something you would like to share, we encourage you to submit it to us for review and editing as may be required. Any submissions will remain anonymous. All glory goes to God. We will find a place in our Storehouse to archive these for future reference. Emails may be sent to submissions@ministryofprayer.org. We pray you be blessed as you visit this website.



Persecution

A servant is not greater than his master. If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you. If they kept My word, they will keep yours also. That's what we have from the lips of our Lord Jesus. And Paul assures us that all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.

I wonder how many of us have ever really contemplated what it might mean someday to confess and follow Jesus. I know it's not something pleasant to think about, but perhaps we should all arm ourselves for the possibility. As the Word says "to count the cost."

In America we are all very blessed and usually consider persecution when businesses decide they should not wish us Merry Christmas. In many other parts of the world it is quite different. It often means sacrificing your family or even your very life — and yet many are still making that decision. Because even when it might mean their death, it is really a decision for life. It is a decision not just for this temporary life, but for all eternity. It is a decision to spend it with the God who loves and made you, or to be without Him in torment for eternity.

That decision made brings on a hunger to learn more about their Lord. I think of all the bibles we have here in America (an abundance) and how little we often regard or even open them. The other day I was watching a show and it told about a man who had a chance to travel and receive some old tattered bibles people were willing to donate. The only thing is he had to be

smuggled out in a coffin, under a decaying body with unbelievable stench. And the return trip would be the same way. More than that, some had tried before and ended up buried with that same body. But it was worth the risk to get God's Word.

My God, my God, could we ever be willing to do such a thing? Do we even remember to pray for those around the world who are going through such trials? They are our brothers and sisters in Christ. They are part of the Body. He says the death of His saints is precious in His sight.

I have heard that Jesus is appearing to muslims in dreams. He appears to many in a white robe and asks them to follow Him. Some have had these dreams for years, even Imam's (muslim worship leaders). Jesus is getting His message out to places where Christians cannot reach. He loves us that much. Indeed, He will reveal Himself to anyone who is truly hungry and desires the truth.

The day is far spent and time is drawing near. I think it is necessary to prepare ourselves (and our commitment) for whatever lies ahead. Let us take nothing for granted, especially our availability of the Word of God. By it we are nourished and grow. Do we cherish it as much as the man who was smuggled?

Let us also not forget those that are in darkness still. There are many that are still lost and seeking. Many that are left without hope — young girls in sex trade, alone and afraid, families destroyed through war or persecution, hunger and famine and disease rampant. Sounds like the description Jesus gave of the end times in Matthew 24. Certainly we give our support as we can, but we can always give our prayers.

I just want to urge each of us to seek the Lord and His righteousness. In Him is life and His life is the light of men. Remember to praise and worship Him for that is our strength. Pray diligently as Paul said, without ceasing. Then when you have laid all your known prayers before Him, just be still before the Lord. Spend a little time and ask Him what's on His heart that you might need to mention. That's where praying in the Spirit helps.

Learn to listen. Learn to know the voice of the Holy Spirit. It will be so important in these days. Be obedient to that leading. Moses struck the rock twice instead of speaking to it the second time as instructed. It kept him from entering the promised land.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths. Prov. 3:5-6

He is worthy above all that we can even think or imagine. He is so holy, so good and righteous and our perceived own righteousness is as filthy rags. To think that He loves us and wants to exalt us into His presence — to share eternity with Him. What a God we serve.